IN THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) An oral self-emulsifying pharmaceutical formulation of a fibrate with improved oral bioavailability comprising a fibrate selected from **the group consisting of** fenofibrate, **a** derivative of fenofibrate ~~or~~ **and** mixtures thereof dissolved in one or more fibrate solubilizers selected from **the group consisting of an** N-alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone, ~~mono- or di-~~ **or monoethylene glycol monoethers, diethylene glycol monoethers, higher-ethylene glycol monoethers,** polyethylene glycol monoethers, C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol, ~~or~~ **and** combinations thereof; and one or more surfactants selected from **the group consisting of** nonionic, anionic, cationic, and zwitterionic surfactants and combinations thereof;

wherein the fibrate to the fibrate solubilizer weight ratio is between about 1:1 and about ~~1:100~~ **1:16**.

2. (original) A formulation according to claim 1 that further contains one or more stabilizers in sufficient amounts to prevent the crystal growth of the fibrate, wherein fibrate remains in solution and no crystallization of fibrate is observed for at least 24 hours.

3. (original) A formulation according to claim 2 wherein the stabilizers are selected from fatty acids, fatty alcohols, alcohols, long chain fatty acid esters, long chain ethers, hydrophilic derivatives of fatty acids, polyvinylpyrrolidones, polyvinylethers, polyvinyl alcohols, hydrocarbons, hydrophobic polymers, moisture-absorbing polymers.

4. (original) A formulation according to claim 2 wherein the weight ratio of the fibrate to the stabilizer is between about 50:1 to about 1:10.

5. (original) A formulation according to claim 1 wherein the amount of solubilizers is between about 20% to about 80% by weight of the formulation.

6. (currently amended) A formulation according to claim 1 wherein **said** fibrate solubilizer is selected from **the group consisting of** N-C_{1-4} alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone, ~~mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoethers, diethylene glycol monoethers, higher-ethylene glycol monoethers,** polyethylene glycol monoethers,, C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol, ~~or~~ **and** combinations thereof.

7. (original) A formulation according to claim 1 wherein the surfactant is between about 2% to about 25% by weight of the formulation.

8. (original) A formulation according to claim 3 wherein the stabilizer is between about 0% to about 30% by weight of the formulation.

9. (currently amended) A formulation according to claims 1 to 8 wherein the solubilizer is selected from **the group consisting of** N-C_{1-4} alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidones, ~~mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoethers, diethylene glycol monoethers, higher-ethylene glycol monoethers,** polyethylene glycol monoethers, C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol, ~~or~~ **and** combinations thereof.

10. (original) A formulation according to claim 9 wherein the weight ratio of the N-C_{1-4} alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone, ~~or a mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoether, diethylene glycol monoether, other higher-ethylene glycol monoether,** polyethylene glycol

~~monoethers~~ **monoether**, or combinations thereof to one or more C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol is between about 100:1 to about 1:100.

11. (original) A formulation according to claim 9 wherein the solubilizer is C_{8-12} fatty acid monoesters of propylene glycol, C_{8-12} fatty acid diesters of propylene glycol, or combinations thereof.

12. (original) A formulation according to claim 1 wherein the N-C_{1-4} alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone is selected from N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-ethyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-propyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-isopropyl-2-pyrrolidone, N-butyl-2-pyrrolidone, and N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-2-pyrrolidone or mixtures thereof.

13. (original) A formulation according to claim 12 wherein the N-C_{1-4} alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone is N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone.

14. (currently amended) A formulation according to claim 1 wherein the ~~mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoether, diethylene glycol monoether, higher-ethylene glycol monoethers or** polyethylene glycol monoether is selected from **the group consisting of** diethylene glycol monoethyl ether, diethylene glycol monobutyl ether, ethyleneglycol monoethyl ether, ethyleneglycol monobutyl ether, ~~and~~ other higher-ethylene glycol monoethers, **and polyethylene glycol monoethers**.

15. (original) A formulation according to claim 1 wherein the fibrate solubilizer is a combination of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone and diethylene glycol monoethyl ether wherein the weight ratios of N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone to diethylene glycol monoethyl ether is between about 100:1 and about 1:100.

16. (original) A formulation according to claim 9 wherein the stabilizer is ethanol, oleic acid, caprylic acid, capric acid, polyvinylpyrrolidone, waxes, or combinations thereof.

17. (currently amended) A self-emulsifying oral pharmaceutical formulation with improved bioavailability comprising: a therapeutically effective amount of the fenofibrate or a fenofibrate derivative; at least one surfactant; and one or more fibrate solubilizers selected from N-alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone, ~~mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoethers, diethylene glycol monoethers, higher-ethylene glycol monoethers,** polyethylene glycol monoethers, C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol, ~~or~~ **and** combinations thereof; and one or more stabilizers wherein the fibrate to solubilizer weight ratio is between about 1:1 and about 1:100 and the saturation factor is between about 1.05 and about 2.5 and the stabilizer is present in sufficient amounts to prevent crystal growth.

18. (currently amended) A formulation according to claim 1, 9 or 17 wherein ~~the~~ **said formulation has a** C_{max} **that** is at least 1.2 times that of Lipanthyl® or TriCor®. or **has an** ~~the~~ $AUC_{0-\infty}$ **that** is at least 1.5 times that of Lipanthyl® or TriCor® when ~~dosed~~ **administered to** mammals in the fasted state.

19. (original) A method of treating endogenous hyperlipidaemias, hypercholesterolaemias and hypertriglyceridaemias in mammals comprising the administration of a fibrate formulation of any of claims 1, 9 or 17.

20. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage unit for oral administration comprising ~~of~~ a fibrate formulation, **wherein said formulation comprises** ~~containing~~ a fibrate dissolved in a fibrate solubilizer composed selected from N-alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone, ~~mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoethers, diethylene glycol monoethers, higher-**

ethylene glycol monoethers, polyethylene glycol monoethers, C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol, ~~or~~ **and** combinations thereof;

at least one ionic or non-ionic surfactant or combinations thereof; and

optionally one or more stabilizers wherein the fibrate is between about 5 W/W % and about 40 W/W %, the fibrate solubilizer is between about 20 W/W % and about 80 W/W %; the surfactant is **between** about 2 W/W %, and about 25 W/W%; and the stabilizer is between 0 W/W % and 30 W/W %.

21. (currently amended) An oral self-emulsifying pharmaceutical formulation of a fibrate with improved oral bioavailability comprising a fibrate dissolved in a fibrate solubilizer selected from N-alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone, ~~mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoethers, diethylene glycol monoethers, higher-ethylene glycol monoethers,** polyethylene glycol monoethers,, C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol, or combinations thereof; at least one ionic or non-ionic surfactant or combinations thereof; and optionally one or more stabilizers wherein the fibrate is between about 5 W/W % and about 40 W/W %, the fibrate solubilizer is between about 20 W/W % and about 80 W/W %; the surfactant is **between** about 2 W/W %, and about 25 W/W %; the stabilizer is between 0 W/W % and 30 W/W %, the C_{max} is at least 1.2 times that of Lipanthyl® or TriCor® or the $AUC_{0-\infty}$ is at least 1.5 times that of Lipanthyl® or TriCor® when ~~dosed~~ **administered to** mammals in the fasted state.

22. (currently amended) An oral self-emulsifying pharmaceutical formulation of a fibrate with improved oral bioavailability comprising a fibrate dissolved in a fibrate solubilizer selected from N-alkyl derivative of 2-pyrrolidone, ~~mono- or di- or~~ **monoethylene glycol monoethers, diethylene glycol monoethers, higher-ethylene glycol monoethers,** polyethylene glycol monoethers,, C_{8-12} fatty acid mono- or diesters of propylene glycol, ~~or~~ **and** combinations thereof; at least one ionic or non-ionic surfactant or combinations thereof; and optionally one or more stabilizers wherein the fibrate is between about 5 W/W % and about 40 W/W %, the fibrate

solubilizer is between about 20 W/W % and about 80 W/W %; the surfactant is between about 2 W/W %, and about 25 W/W %; the stabilizer is between 0 W/W % and 30 W/W %, and wherein the saturation factor is between about 1.05 and 2.5.